

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15

ICA-11 HA-05 ACDA-12 EUR-12 /106 W

-----040471 071501Z /53

P R 061430Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1944

INFO AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY DARESSALAAM

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 0941

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, BC, RH

SUBJECT: ZIMBABWE: ZANU (SITHOLE) REP CALLS ON EMBASSY

1. ZANU (SITHOLE) BOTSWANA REP OLIVER SAWUNYAMA CALLED AT EMBASSY APRIL 4 TO EXPRESS HIS DISAPPOINTMENT THAT U.S. POSITION ON INTERNAL SETTLEMENT HAD CHANGED FROM ONE OF "LET'S WAIT AND SEE" TO THAT OF CONDEMNATION. HE SAID THE U.S. ATTITUDE WAS PARTICULARLY DISTURBING IN VIEW OF FACT THAT IT WAS ZANU (SITHOLE) AND NOT THE PATROITIC FRONT WHICH HAD ALWAYS BEEN PREPARED TO CONSIDER THE AAP AND, INDEED, HAD BROUGHT ABOUT PEACEFUL CHANGE IN ZIMBABWE BY TAKING OVER FROM THE ENEMY (I.E., SMITH). IN JUDGING THE INTERNAL SITUATION TOO QUICKLY, THE U.S. IS STIRRING UP TROUBLE. EVEN THE DEMAND THAT "SMITH MUST GO" LEADS TO INSTABILITY; DESPITE THE FACT THAT BLACKS HAVE SUFFERED UNDER HIM FOR THE LAST TWELVE YEARS, SMITH "HOLDS ALL  
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THE KEYS TO THE NECESSITIES OF LIFE". HIS REMOVAL AT THIS MOMENT WOULD CRIPPLE THE COUNTRY.

2. WHEN ASKED WHETHER THE SALISBURY LEADERS WOULD ATTEND AN ALL-PARTIES CONFERENCE, SAWUNYAMA DEMURRED STATING THAT WHAT HAS BEEN SAID BY THE OAU, UN AND ANDREW YOUNG TENDS TO HARDEN ATTITUDES INSIDE ZIMBABWE

SO THAT PEOPLE WILL SOLVE THEIR OWN PROBLEMS. IF THREE-FOURTHS OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS COME OUT OF THE BUSH (AND HE SEEMED SURE THEY WOULD), THE SALISBURY LEADERS WILL NOT HAVE TO ATTEND ANY CONFERENCE. FOR THAT MATTER, ZIMBABWE MAY NOT EVEN WISH TO JOIN THE OAU. AFRICA HAS LET ZIMBABWE DOWN.

3. EMBOFFS TOLD SAWUNYAMA THAT U.S. FAVORED NO NATIONALIST FACTION AND WAS BACKING THE AAP AS THE ONLY PROPOSAL WHICH WOULD INCLUDE ALL THE PARTIES INVOLVED AND BRING PEACE TO THE AREA.

4. COMMENT: SAWUNYAMA SUGGESTS (PARA 2) THAT SALISBURY DECISION ON ATTENDANCE AT ALL-PARTIES CONFERENCE OR CO-OPERATION ON AAP WILL HANG FIRE UNTIL MUZOREWA AND SITHOLE "GIVE ORDER TO STOP FIGHTING" (I.E., IMPLYING CONTROL OVER ZAPU/AZANU FORCES) AND GUERRILLAS RESPOND.

5. SAWUNYAMA'S APPARENT FEELINGS OF BETRAYAL BY THE U.S. AND AFRICA, HIS REMARKS ON HARDENING ATTITUDES IN RHODESIA, AND THE FACT THAT ZIMBABWE MAY NOT WISH TO JOIN THE OAU, INDICATE THAT BLACK INTERNAL NATIONALISTS MAY BE TAKING ON SMITH'S FORTRESS MENTALITY, MAKING IT DIFFICULT TO LURE THEM INTO THE OPEN.  
NORLAND

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## Message Attributes

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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014